



2020 Census Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP)

Quick Reference: Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas

Oklahoma tribal statistical areas (OTSAs) are identified and delineated by the U.S. Census Bureau and federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma that had a former American Indian reservation (AIR) in Oklahoma. The Census Bureau intends OTSAs to represent the former AIRs that existed in the Indian and Oklahoma territories prior to Oklahoma statehood in 1907. OTSAs provide a way to obtain data comparable to that provided to federally recognized tribes that currently have an AIR. The Census Bureau uses OTSAs and their tribal subdivisions in the tabulation and presentation of data from the decennial census and the American Community Survey (ACS).

Tribal subdivisions are units of self-government and/or administration within an AIR and/or off-reservation trust lands (OTRL) for a federally recognized tribe or an OTSA, that serve social, cultural, and/or legal purposes for the tribal government. Tribal subdivisions delineated within OTSAs are considered "statistical geographic entities" by the Census Bureau and are specifically termed "statistical tribal subdivisions" because the larger OTSA is also considered a statistical geographic entity. These subdivisions are delineated or updated with the OTSAs through PSAP.

Census Bureau criteria specify that OTSAs must:

- Be located completely within the current boundaries of the State of Oklahoma.
- Be named by the tribe or tribes that are responsible for delineating each OTSA, and must be clearly distinguishable from the name of any other OTSA. The name of an OTSA must reflect one or more of the following conditions:
 - Tribe or tribes associated with the former AIR represented by the OTSA;
 - Tribes that have historically resided within the area of the OTSA;
 - Tribes that have significant population currently residing within the OTSA; and/or
 - Name(s) of the tribe(s) commonly associated with the area encompassed by the OTSA.
- The Census Bureau will evaluate the submitted name to ensure the criteria listed above are applied properly, and the name is clearly distinguishable from the name of any other legal or statistical American Indian Areas (AIAs).
- Contain some American Indian population and housing.
- Not overlap with, or completely surround, an American Indian reservation, off-reservation trust land, or a tribal designated statistical area.
- Not include more water area than land area.

Census Bureau guidelines recommend that each OTSA:

- Retain the same boundaries as those delineated for the 2010 Census, to the extent possible.
- Follow the last legal boundaries used by their former AIR.
- Eliminate joint-use areas, if possible.
- Delineate census designated places (CDPs) representing unincorporated communities located within their own OTSA.
- Add nonvisible lines as a boundary only if other acceptable boundary features are not available and they aid in meeting other specific OTSA delineation criteria and/or guidelines.

Census Bureau guidelines recommend that tribal subdivisions of OTSAs:

- Completely cover all of an OTSA or at least the major contiguous portion.
- Represent units of self-government or administration within the OTSA.
- Not be used to define separate, discrete communities whose boundaries encompass a concentration of population and housing — these should be defined as CDPs within the OTSA.
- Have a name that reflects the name cited in recent tribal legal documentation and/or used by the tribal government for administrative purposes.
- Be noncontiguous if OTSA consists of multiple, noncontiguous parts.

Refer to the Respondent Guide for complete instructions.